'SPIDER-MAN' AND 'WEST SIDE' GO LIVE!
ARTS {pages 13-14}

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Dear gods of hockey...

The Hub is praying for a B's victory tonight
Only one team can take home the Stanley Cup
{pages 04, 22-24}

News

Publishing world must ask: WTF?

Surprisingly profane 'kid' book resonates among parents
'Go the F— to Sleep' rockets to top of best-seller list {page 06}

Soulja Boy tells 'em: It's not me

Rapper says hateful online tirade wasn't him, but words of hackers {page 12}

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Cause for worry over T crashes?

Fourteen people injured in bus accidents this month alone ◗ Six hurt in Huntington Avenue collision yesterday ◗ MBTA spokesman says incidents are few and far between ◗ Discipline varies for drivers involved

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

▶ An MBTA bus crashed into multiple cars along South Huntington Avenue yesterday, sending six people to local hospitals.

Six people, including a bus driver, were transported to the hospital yesterday after the Route 39 bus hit a series of parked cars on Huntington Avenue.

It was the second time in less than a month that an MBTA bus colliding with a vehicle resulted in neck and back injuries to occupants on board.

MBTA spokesman Joe Pesaturo called yesterday's crash "an isolated incident" from any alleged trend, and said it's still under investigation.

"MBTA buses make 14,700 trips a day with few or no problems," said Pesaturo. "[That's] a credit to the excellent training that bus operators receive."

When accidents do occur, drivers involved are issued a written warning.

If a driver has more than two "preventable" accidents in two years, they have to take the MBTA's Defensive Driving course.

An accident is considered preventable if a driver could have averted it by taking action, according to the T's website.

"Measures of discipline can vary depending on the exact circumstances and the individual's employment history," said Pesaturo. "Preventable accidents are few and far between."

In a written report, Pesaturo said the MBTA performs routine safety audits of routes and stops to find and address potential safety hazards, and rides buses covertly to make sure drivers operate safely.

Drivers must pass a series of tests in order to get operating positions with the MBTA, including passing a qualifying written exam in English, a Criminal Offender Record Information check, and physical exam including drug and alcohol screens.

They also have to work part-time for up to two years, 30 hours a week, until full-time positions open up.

Drivers need to obtain a Class B CDL learner's permit with General Knowledge, Air Brakes and Passenger endorsements prior to being hired.

STEVE ANNEAR
steve.annear@metro.us

Recent bus incidents

- **One June 7,** eight people were injured when the Route 28 bus ran into a car making a left-hand turn in Milton.
- **In April,** a Roxbury bus crash caused by two teens who allegedly attacked a bus operator, put an MBTA bus into the side of the Dudley Street building.
- **In January,** MBTA police investigated a bus accident when a woman was hit in Malden.
- **The MBTA took swift action** earlier this month, firing two bus drivers in Chelsea, after they allegedly engaged in a game of "chicken" with passengers on board.

1.3
Average number of accidents in 2009 for every 100,000 miles

T police on hunt for bag thieves

BOSTON. Transit police are searching for two men who stole a backpack at the Back Bay station earlier this month.

Surveillance photos of the men carrying the bag were released Monday.

The victim was on his phone June 2 about 9:15 a.m. near the Amtrak ticket window when he noticed his backpack was no longer at his side.

The men are wanted for larceny over $250. It is unknown why the bag had such a high value. ● METRO

▶ Cusack

State rep cleared of wrongdoing

BOSTON. House Speaker Robert DeLeo yesterday cleared Braintree Democratic Rep. Mark Cusack of any wrongdoing in connection with his accessing the House chamber with an aide after hours, but acknowledged there had been a beer-drinking party in his office while he was not there and announced new rules governing access to the historic chamber. SHNS

Stay thirsty, my friends

More than 800,000 homes in Boston and 40 other Massachusetts cities and towns will receive a report from the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority describing their water quality as excellent.
The report shows MWRA water met federal and state drinking water standards and has fallen below the lead action levels for the past seven years. SHNS

In the news

3

The number of hours commuter rail riders were delayed after the first train that left Franklin Station yesterday broke down in Walpole at 5:30 a.m. The train reportedly experienced engine failure. BOSTON.COM

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OUR GIFT PICKS FOR DEAR OLD DAD

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Police, city lay out new restrictions for Game 7

Hub sports fans know how to party and that's why police are discouraging people from heading to the TD Garden after tonight's Stanley Cup Finals game.

Hoping to minimize any potential damage and destruction, which has followed other sports championship games, police yesterday discussed part of their plans for Game 7.

Certain areas around the Garden and Kenmore Square will close at the end of the second period.

Access to bars will also be restricted at the end of the second or beginning of the third period.

"We want everyone to enjoy themselves, but we want everyone to celebrate responsibly," said Boston Police Superintendent William Evans.

He also said that some officers would be in areas with cameras recording what happens.

Parking will also be restricted near the Garden, Faneuil Hall and Kenmore Square. For more info visit www.cityofboston.gov/transportation. MICHAEL NAUGHTON

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

▶ Boston Police responded to an early morning domestic dispute in Dorchester, which resulted in two individuals and one police officer being shot.

Daytime shootout with cops

Suspect allegedly pointed gun at police Officer shot in leg One bullet ended up in nearby school

A Dorchester man who allegedly threatened to kill his girlfriend and got in to a gunfight with Boston Police yesterday was "armed to the teeth," police said.

Tyrone Cummings, 25, was shot multiple times by police after he allegedly shot at them.

"It's clearly our worst-case scenario," said police Commissioner Ed Davis. "Unfortunately we have to meet force with force in situations like this."

Officer Shawn Marando, 46, a 13-year veteran, was hit in the leg during the confrontation.

Marando was responding to a report of a domestic violence call at 22 Wentworth Terrace in Dorchester about 6:40 a.m.

Police said a woman called them from the house and said her boyfriend assaulted her and threatened to kill her.

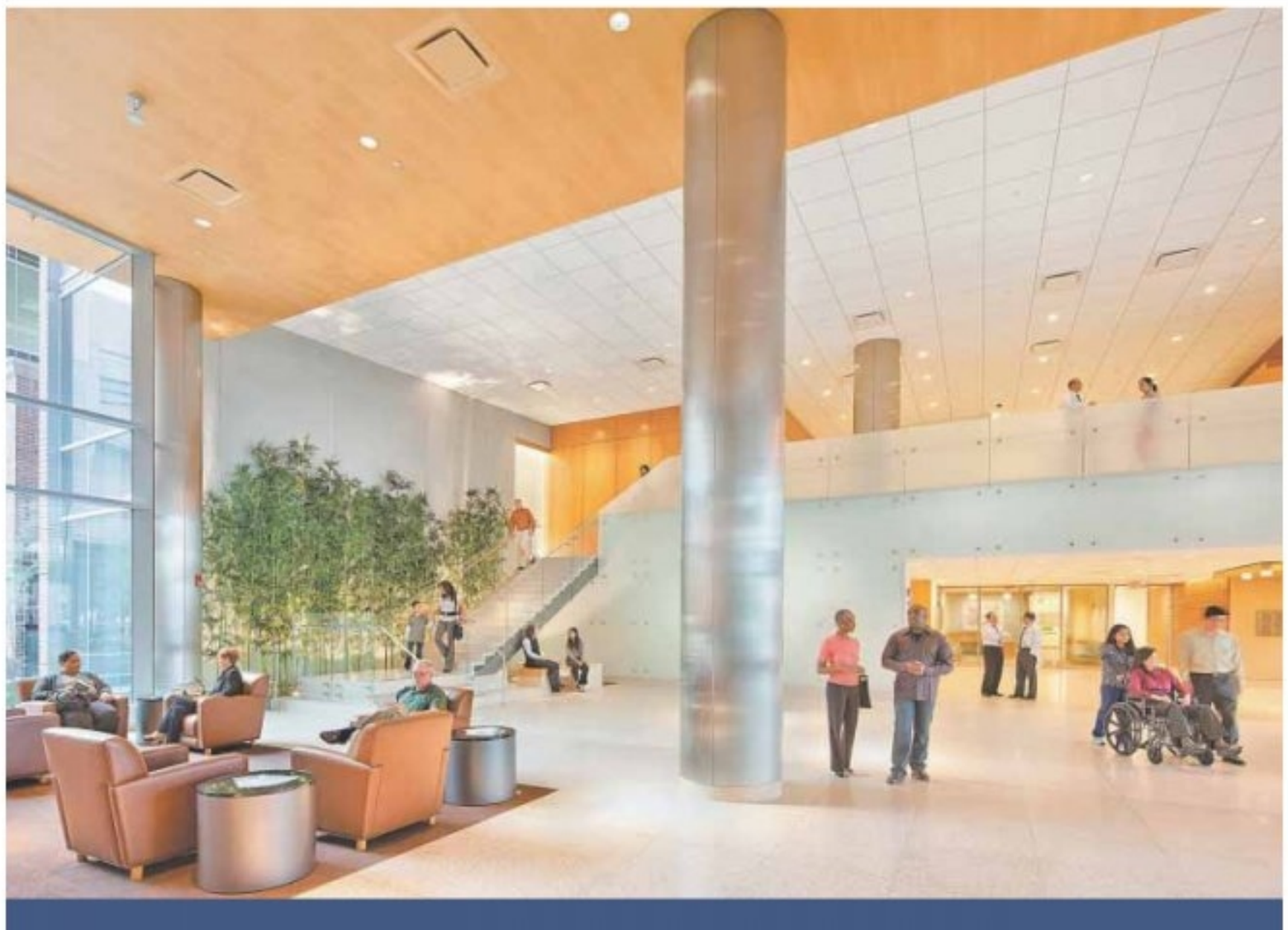
When police arrived another woman, believed to be the domestic violence victim's sister, was outside with Cummings. She was hit in the leg during the volley of gunfire.

A bullet also broke through a window of the nearby Fifield Elementary School, which was empty.

Recent police shooting

- **Police working in the South End Thursday** witnessed what they believed was a drug deal. When officers approached the suspect, James Sanders, 18, of Roxbury ran away.
- **Officers were eventually able to catch up** with Sanders after a car hit him during the foot pursuit. That's when a violent struggle occurred.
- **During the struggle,** an officer's gun fired and struck Sanders, who suffered an injury that was not life-threatening.

MICHAEL NAUGHTON
michael.naughton@metro.us



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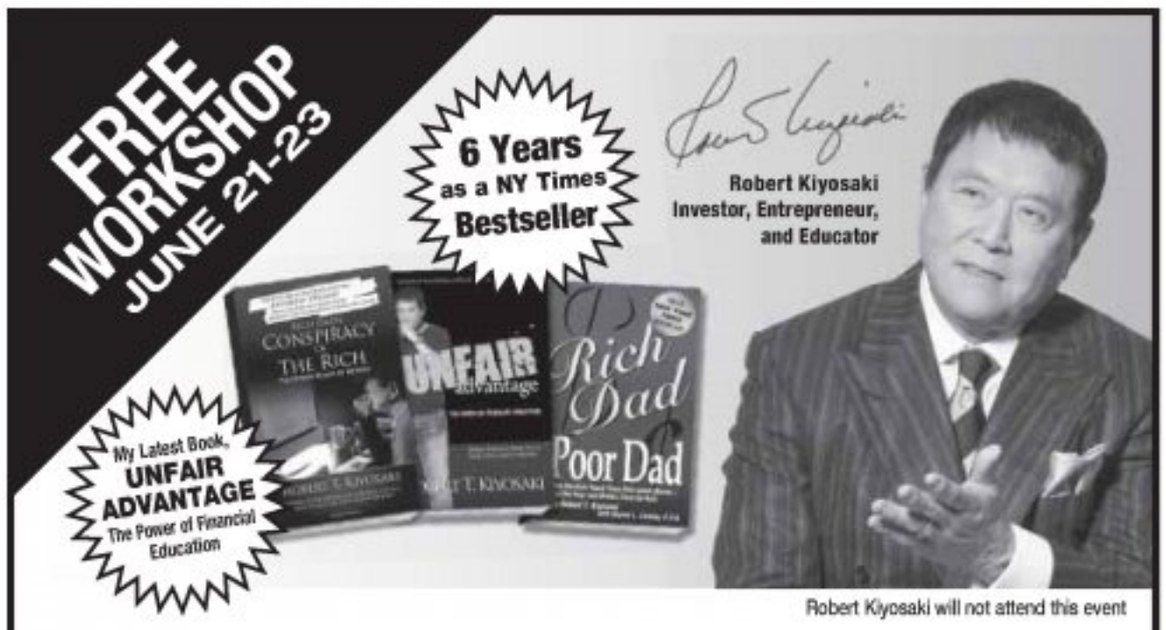
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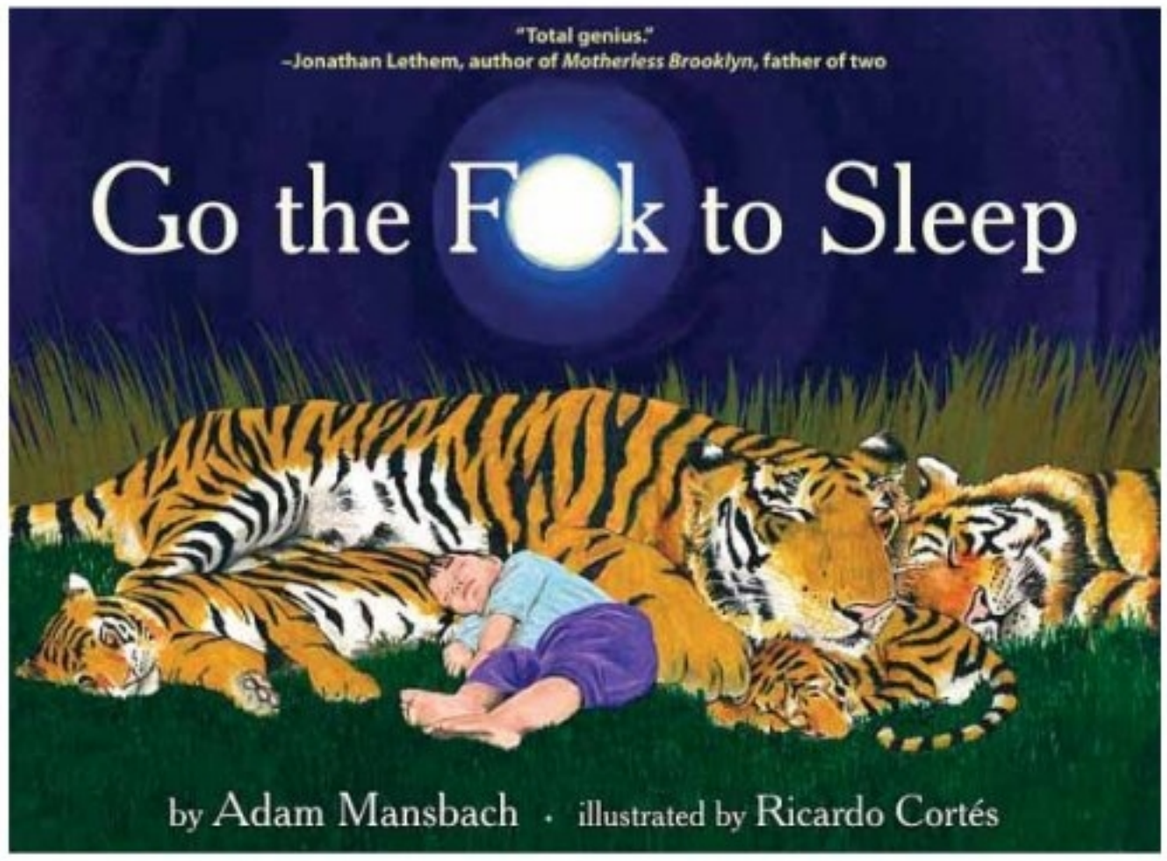
New bedtime book is a big f—ing deal

What if you could tell your child what you're really thinking? Expletive-filled story a hit with parents


"Total genius."
–Jonathan Lethem, author of Motherless Brooklyn, father of two
Go the F k to Sleep
by Adam Mansbach · illustrated by Ricardo Cortés

Adam Mansbach has had three novels and a book of poems published, but it was a brief Facebook update wishing his 2-year-old daughter would "Go the F— to Sleep" which helped him hit publishing gold.

Now a year later, the resulting parody of a children's book may be the unlikeliest hit book of the summer.

Ahead of its release yesterday, the expletive-laced book of rhyming verse had advance sales of over 100,000 copies and is in its fifth printing, which takes copies in print to over 400,000.

"After a particularly difficult time putting my 2-year-old daughter Vivien to bed, I posted on Facebook ... 'Be on the lookout for my forthcoming children's book, Go the F— to Sleep,'" Mansbach recalls of the unlikely night that changed his professional life. "It was a joke. It was not a book I had any intention of writing at the time."

But he's not too worried what his daughter will think of it when she's older: "This book may well be the reason that we are living in a house and not under a bridge." **REUTERS**

A verse

"The eagles who soar though the sky are at rest,
And the creatures who crawl, run and creep.
I know you're not thirsty.
That's bulls—. Stop lying.
Lie the f— down, my darling, and sleep."

Huntsman to join race

NEW YORK. Former Utah Governor Jon Huntsman will announce his bid for the White House next Tuesday, bringing a moderate Republican and expert on America's fastest-growing competitor into the race. The former U.S. ambassador to China is one of the few GOP hopefuls who worries President Barack Obama's re-election team, though his name recognition is low. **REUTERS**

CEOs not optimistic

NEW YORK. Most CEOs of large U.S. companies expect higher sales and higher capital spending in the next six months, but their optimism about economic conditions and expectations for growth are more muted than three months ago, according to a quarterly survey. **REUTERS**

BoA didn't cooperate

Bank of America Corp., the largest U.S. lender, "significantly hindered" a federal review of its foreclosures on loans insured by the Federal Housing Administration, the U.S. said. The bank was slow in providing data and offered incomplete information, the government said. **BLOOMBERG**

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Celebrating 40 years in the war on drugs!

Trillions of dollars and thousands of lives later, war is still going strong

What a long, strange trip it's been! This week marks the 40th anniversary of the U.S.-led war on drugs, following its announcement by President Richard Nixon on June 17, 1971. METRO

"The global war on drugs has failed, with devastating consequences for individuals and societies around the world."
GLOBAL COMMISSION ON DRUG POLICY

Where Obama stands

Last year, the Obama administration announced a "shift" in U.S. drug policy aimed at treating abuse from a public health standpoint. Last week, however, a report urging legalization and regulation was dismissed by the president.

A LEAP ahead

Law Enforcement Against Prohibition, a group of pro-legalization law enforcers, released a report yesterday criticizing Obama for upping drug war efforts.

By the numbers

40M
Total drug war-related arrests since 1971. Drug offenses remain the No. 1 cause of incarceration domestically, high above arrests for violent crimes.

11M+
Approximate number of arrests for marijuana-related offenses since 1980, based on figures from "Drug War Facts."

$500
Cost to government, per second, in the war on drugs.

$15B
U.S. budget for drug war-related activities for 2011-2012.

$1T
Estimated cost of prosecuting the war on drugs for 40 years, according to an AP report.

SOURCE: OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY, "DRUG WAR FACTS", DRUGSENSE.ORG, ASSOCIATED PRESS

COMSTOCK

▶ Many are wondering: What do we have to show for our costly efforts spent prosecuting a so-called war on drugs?

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The future of flight?

AIRBUS S.A.S

▶ According to plane-maker Airbus, the plane of the future will be tailored to individual needs, including a "smart-tech zone" to allow passengers to "continue life as if on the ground."

This ain't science fiction — this transparent plane is what we could be flying in 40 years from now. This is the futuristic vision of Airbus, unveiled this week in London, which offers panoramic views of the skies in the front of the aircraft and virtual reality gaming in the middle. Nervous flyers may want to opt out. MWN

'Intelligent' plane structure

The concept cabin would be a bionic structure that mimics the efficiency of bird bone. It allows for an "intelligent" wall membrane which controls air temperature and can become transparent.

"The concept cabin shows that the journey can be as much a voyage of discovery as the destination."

CHARLES CHAMPION, AIRBUS ENGINEERING EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT

New flying experiences

Inside the cabin will be a "vitalizing zone," Airbus says, which will help travelers relax in vitamin-and antioxidant-enriched air, mood lighting and acupressure treatments, powered by passenger body heat.

2050

The year that the new transparent plane will be ready for travelers to board, according to Airbus.

It's all about 'first class'

New personalized zones will replace the traditional cabin classes, said Airbus. An "interactive zone" will provide virtual pop-up projections simulating social scenes like golf or changing rooms for shoppers.

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Angry Birds is flying

The video game franchise Angry Birds knows no bounds — it'll soon be made into a movie ◗ Metro looks at the success behind the bird-slinging, pig-bashing gaming phenomenon ◗ Who will play the much-hated pig?

▶ Pigs get no love in this popular mobile game.

The well-known touch-screen mobile game Angry Birds, developed by Finland-based mobile game company Rovio Mobile, is now planning to make its own film as its brand franchise expands.

In an exclusive conversation with Metro, Ville Heijari — co-creator of Angry Birds and vice president of franchise development at Rovio — said that the popular video game is being pegged to be made into a movie.

The game's developers are hoping the film will be a continuation of their unprecedented success. Since the game's first release in December 2009, Angry Birds has generated more than 200 million downloads across all platforms, with the latest installation in the franchise Angry Birds Rio mustering up 35 million since its launch in March, the company announced last month.

Quoted

"Regarding the film project, we are indeed looking into producing new entertainment other than games."

VILLE HEIJARI

This massive surge in expansive brand popularity could help elevate companies like Rovio to the levels enjoyed by industry heavyweights like Disney. Rovio estimates that gamers around the globe spend approximately 200 million minutes every day playing Angry Birds.

The success of the Angry Birds phenomenon could be just the tip of the iceberg in terms of the potential of smartphone gaming, a previously uncharted realm in the global entertainment sector. Between 50 and 75 percent of iPhone owners download and play games on their devices, according to analytics company Distimo and market research firm Newzoo.

"Nowadays, people have to be entertained all the time, whenever you have just a few moments spare," Rovio CEO Mikael Hed told Reuters in Paris this week. For now at least, smartphones and their games could satisfy our craving for amusement.

XIAOLIANG HUANG
metro.letters@metro.us
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

Hello there ...

LOOK FOR MORE ON YOUR FAVE SOCIAL NETWORK

▶ Heijari

We spoke with Ville Heijari, one of the designers of Angry Birds and vice president of franchise development at Rovio Mobile.

What inspired you at the beginning to create this game?
In early 2009, our design team was looking at a number of different concepts. One of them included a bunch of angry-looking bird characters. Everybody immediately fell in love with them and we decided to use them in our next game.

What reasons do you think make Angry Birds so successful and popular around the world?
Perhaps the most important thing is the audiovisual design, the funny characters and the unique soundscape.

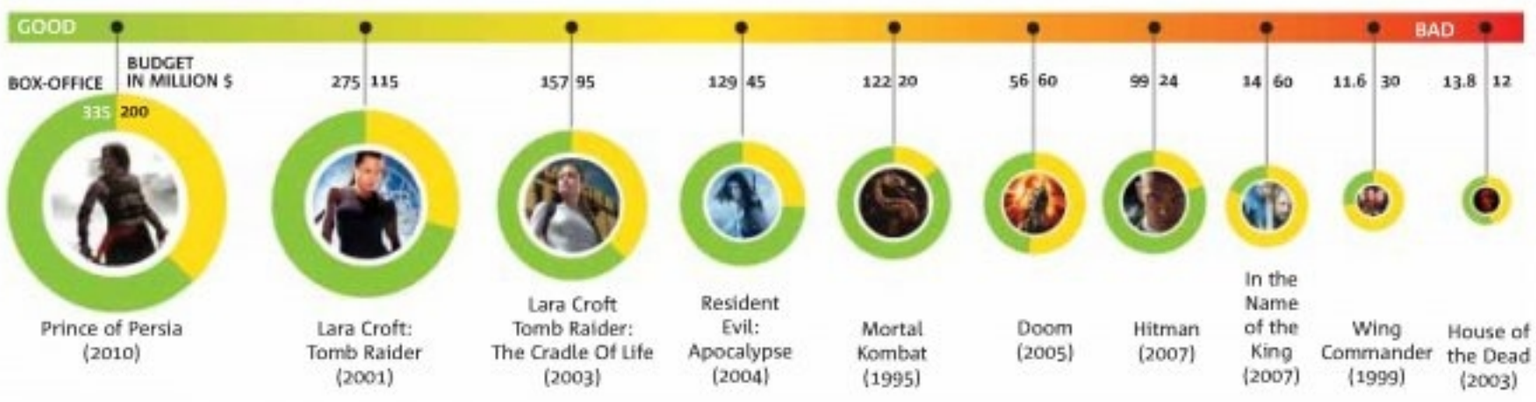
Did you predict the success of this game?
We had a fairly good idea that the game would be successful, but the extent of success was really something that any mobile game developer can rarely plan for.

What is your next step?
Even more platforms, taking the game to Facebook and online for a more social gaming experience, and creating more different games and extending the story around the characters.

What is your favorite part about this game?
It must be when you fail a level and the pigs jeer and grunt at you.

Games into movies

How 10 other video game-based movies fared at the box office, according to Lovefilm:



PHOTOS: ANYA RICHARDSON, TOYWIZ.COM, MYMEALBOX.COM

1: Celebrate with a video game-themed cake?
2: Show the maligned pig some love as a plush toy.
3: Tuck away this dish of Japanese rice balls, fruit and veg.

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myentertainment

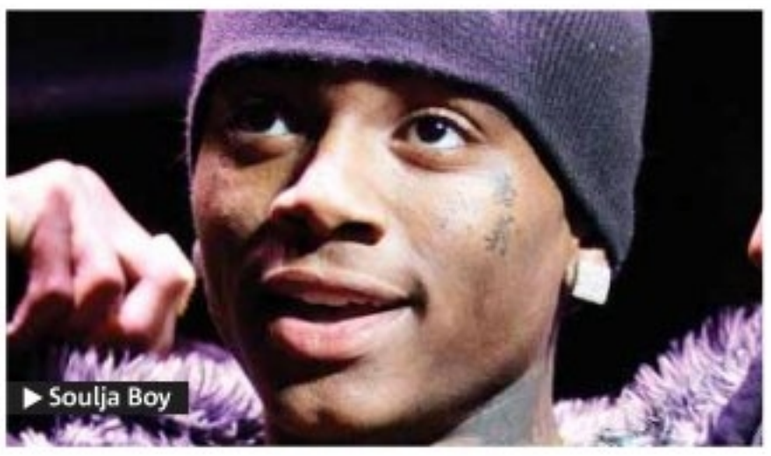
2

THE WORD

Metro's **Monica Weymouth** shares her take on the world of gossip @monicaatmetro monica.weymouth@metro.us

– Dorothy Robinson will return Monday.

Soulja Boy was 'hacked'


Soulja Boy

If you're a fan of **Soulja Boy**'s Facebook page, you may have read his little racist, homophobic tantrum over the weekend. (Also, you may have to explain why you're a Soulja Boy fan.)

But according to the rapper, like so many other wronged and pious celebrities, he was hacked! "I wanted to clear the air and let everyone know that my Facebook got hacked," he says in a statement to TMZ. "I had administrators on my account that no longer work with me. The hackers used these old accounts to post hateful messages. This was not done by me or anyone on my team, and I'm upset that I am being labeled as a racist and homophobic person."

Honey, in case you haven't noticed, the "I was hacked" defense isn't working out so well these days. It's the new "they were prescription painkillers for my deviated septum surgery" excuse.

'Game of Thrones' actor stabbed

Sean Bean — aka Ned Stark on the new HBO nerd-fest "Game of Thrones" — was stabbed at a London bar Sunday night. Not that he went to a hospital or anything: "We saw to his injuries with the first aid kit. He seemed OK and wanted to have another drink," an employee told the Daily Mail.

And with that, he's promoted to the front of our "must drink with" list.

Bean

Stop talking, Chris Evans

To be fair, **Chris Evans** comes across as a fun, likable guy in July's GQ cover story. Nevertheless, the new "Captain America" did say this: "When I see a sunset or a waterfall or something, for a split second it's so great, because for a little bit I'm out of my brain, and it's got nothing to do with me. I'm not trying to figure it out, you know what I mean?"

We do. And that's unfortunate.

Evans

PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

Hugh Hefner's wedding off

Crystal Harris canceled her wedding to **Hugh Hefner** after a fight over the weekend, reports TMZ. The 25-year-old packed up, moved out of the mansion and caused an existential crisis for Metro's gossip page:

What does she want?! True love? Make it stop!

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DOROTHY ROBINSON'S WORD BLOG

The feed ...

Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or less.

Today, a pregnant Tori Spelling is a bit shaken, Chris Colfer is nervous about getting too much attention, Jimmy Kimmel has some parenting ideas and Jonah Hill is entertaining senior citizens.

@torianddean
Paparazzi chased me w/the kids 2school. I was trying to get away from him and had a pretty big accident. Took down whole wall of school. He thn STILL got out to try to get pics. Wht will it take? Someone dying for paparazzi to stop?

@chriscolfer
Anyone know why Kurt Hummel is trending? Was my fly down at the concert last night or something?

@jimmykimmel
I'd like parents to start naming boys Barney again.

@JonahHill
Old people love it when you guess how many years they have left.

Hill

Talking points

Sheen to be back on the air?

Charlie Sheen is reportedly in "deep negotiations" for a return to network television after his very public departure from "Two and a Half Men," according to TMZ. While the network with which Sheen is said to be negotiating has not been named, sources say the new sitcom would go straight on the air without having to have a pilot episode reviewed, which is incredibly rare in television. A deal could be finalized by the end of the week.

Sheen

Gomez on health issues

At her first performance since being hospitalized last week, pop singer **Selena Gomez** addressed the health issues that ruined her weekend, according to People magazine. "I was just very malnourished, so I was low on iron and exhausted," she said from the stage at Santa Monica Place Monday night. "I do feel better." Gomez's mother, **Mandy Teefey**, meanwhile, wants to see her daughter not work as hard, according to Popeater. "Her schedule is insane," a source says. "Now even Selena knows she needs to slow down."

Gomez

Fergie's not making babies

Black Eyed Peas singer **Fergie** says she understands where all the rumors about her baby-making plans are coming from. "I gain and lose weight everywhere from the thighs up. I think people think that I'm pregnant sometimes because my weight fluctuates," she tells Allure magazine. "My problem is my discipline. I see a Jack in the Box or a Del Taco, and I will impulsively want it. I'm a work in progress in that area."

Fergie

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‘Spider-Man’: Yes, it’s still bad

Infamous comic-book musical opened last night after monthlong retooling Changes to plot, music and choreography might not save this superhero

JACOB CODE.

▶ Patrick Page and Reeve Carney in a scene from “Spider-Man: Turn Off The Dark.” For tickets, visit http://spidermanonbroadway.marvel.com

Nonstop mockery has shrouded “Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark,” as technical glitches plagued the highly anticipated show since previews began in November 2010 — with roasts ranging from “Saturday Night Live” to “Sesame Street,” from Mayor Bloomberg’s office to this week’s Tony Awards. Although lambasting mainly targeted the dangerous and embarrassing high-flying hang-ups, some of the show’s less scandalous flaws were actually its most grievous: a confusing storyline, murky musical numbers and lack of focus. When “Spider-Man” closed in April, a new team was assembled to help fix some of the major flaws crippling the exorbitantly expensive production originally overseen by Julie Taymor. Creative consultant Philip William McKinley and book editors Glen Berger and Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa came on to doctor the show.

But the cosmetic surgeries only highlighted the need for a complete heart transplant. The storyline remains watered down, with predictable dialogue and a plot you already know (you can save yourself $100 and rent it on Netflix). Because revisions mainly diminished the lone creative addition to the web-slinging origins myth — turning the once-villainous Arachne (T.V. Carpio) into a superfluous Spidey cheerleader — what’s left is an overplayed, uninteresting bore. Thank goodness there are stunning visuals and aerials to keep audiences awake.

The problem is succinct: The book and lyrics are simply lacking. They eschew engagement on an intellectual or emotional level. With punny one-liners and two-dimensional romantic arcs that even Marvel fans may find insulting, the newer version ends up playing it safer than the original. That should be a good thing, history considered; but though cast members may no longer be visiting the ER, “Spider-Man” may be headed for the morgue.

T. MICHELLE MURPHY
tmichelle.murphy@metro.us

B’way do-over

“Spider-Man” went through a major overhaul before finally opening last night. Changes included:

- A more comedic, family-friendly Green Goblin (Patrick Page)
- Revised choreography
- Additional songs by Bono and The Edge
- Elimination of teenaged geek narrators onstage
- Played-up romance between leading couples
- Pared-down presence of non-canon characters

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Welcome to the wild wild 'West'

JOAN MARCUS

▶ See 'West Side Story' now through July 9 at the Colonial Theatre (106 Boylston St., Boston). For tickets, call 617-426-9366 or visit www.broadwayacrossamerica.com.

When you're a Jet you're a Jet, but this 'Story' has moved out of the 1950s and into the modern era

A lot has changed in the world since 1957, when "West Side Story" premiered. Arthur Laurents, writer of the original show, and also director of the 2009 revival, knew it.

"Arthur wanted to make our production more gritty, more true to life," explains Kyle Robinson, a performer in the late writer-director's revival of this classic.

The story is the same: Tony and Maria are still ill-fated lovers, tied to rival street gangs, the Jets and the Sharks. But Laurents cut the links to the '50s, such as period costumes and jargon, and made it timeless. He also infused Spanish into lyrics and dialogue spoken by the Puerto Rican Sharks.

Just beat it

Though he plays the tough guy in "West Side Story," Robinson isn't into real-life fistfights. The Julliard alum would rather dance it out.

"I'd do better in a Michael Jackson-type dance battle," he says.

"The Spanish helps solidify the Sharks' identity. They're not just 'the other gang' in the story anymore. They have their own style and language," Robinson says.

Robinson, a Massachusetts native, plays Diesel, the toughest of the Jets.

"I'm the go-to guy for brawling and rumbles and such," he says.

Robinson and the other gang performers learned complex fight choreography for those rumbles.

"We're throwing punches and all of that. Nothing lands — well not purposefully — but to the audience it looks like we're beating the crap out of each other," says Robinson, who did accidentally catch a hand to the face recently. That's him in the blue shirt in the front row of the photo, with the scratch underneath his eye. Robinson says his fat lip might mean less time prepping for the show.

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The J.J. Abrams formula for success

The release of 'Super 8' proved to be a major win for J.J. Abrams
But it's part of a long string of hits that follow a familiar pattern

The hottest producer/writer/director in Hollywood just knocked another one right out of the park with "Super 8," which topped the weekend box office with $37 million in its debut. But what is it about J.J. Abrams' projects that make them so irresistible? We consider the key traits:

Secrecy

One of the magnetic draws to an Abrams project is the tantalizingly minimal amount of details he'll let leak. Similar to the mystery surrounding "Super 8" co-producer Steven Spielberg's work, many of their new film's plot points were kept under wraps right up until it hit theaters.

Government conspiracies

In Abrams' universe, Big Brother is always up to something — and usually it isn't for the benefit of mankind. In "Alias," Sydney Bristow suffered the killing of her fiance at the hands of feds once she told him about the group's existence. In "Super 8," the government seems to be hiding something from the people of Lillian, who experience increasingly strange occurrences in their little town.

COURTESY OF PARAMOUNT PICTURES

▶ From right: J.J. Abrams directs "Super 8" stars Riley Griffiths and Joel Courtney.

Weird creatures

▶ Based usually on a combination of insect/protean mass, the creatures that pop up in Abrams' monster movies are huge and creepy things that makes you itchy the minute you think of them.

Updating the classics

Abrams re-energized "Star Trek," a franchise that had lost its cool factor, revamping it for the new millennium with a punchy script and sexual tension. And while some critics might disagree, the cinema verite style of "Cloverfield" brought the old-school monster movie to new levels of the frightfully believable.

HEIDI PATALANO
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Viral campaigns

Abrams is the king of hidden clues, which he embeds within viral websites that fans scour for hints. Dharma Initiative commercials ran during airings of "Lost," directing viewers to a website where fans could peruse job listings and mysterious explanations of the organization's mission. In 2008, "Cloverfield" was preceeded by marketing for Slusho!, a fictional Asian beverage that also appeared in Abrams' TV show "Alias." Some theorists believe that the creature in "Cloverfield" was a byproduct of Slusho! manufacturing.

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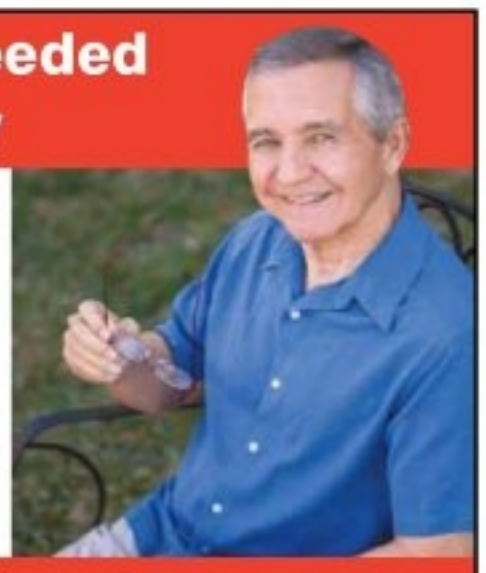

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Ewan McGregor: The best son ever

In 'Beginners,' the one-time Obi-Wan stars as a son reconnecting with his newly out-of-the-closet father How the actor and onscreen dad Christopher Plummer formed a familial bond over skinny jeans

Given his long and eclectic résumé, Ewan McGregor has developed a reputation for choosing interesting, original film projects. But even he admits he's made a few missteps, including an early dalliance in the world of Jane Austen adaptations.

"I remember after 'Trainspotting,' I made a film called 'Emma,' which was a very fine film, but I was terrible in it because I felt like I decided to do it because I should be seen to be doing that," he admits.

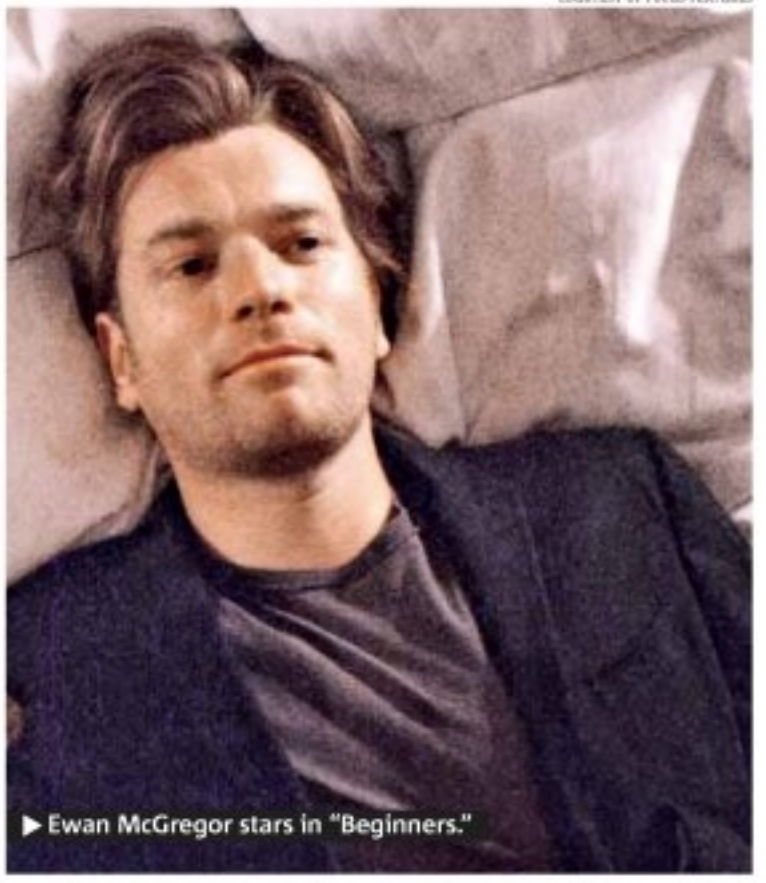
"I remember after 'Trainspotting,' I made a film called 'Emma,' which was a very fine film, but I was terrible in it because I felt like I decided to do it because I should be seen to be doing that."
EWAN MCGREGOR, ON WHAT HE THOUGHT WAS EXPECTED OF HIM

"As a result, I was shockingly bad in it."

McGregor's latest, "Beginners," from writer-director Mike Mills, definitely skews more independent. McGregor stars as Oliver, a graphic designer whose 75-year-old father (Christopher Plummer) comes out of the closet after the death of Oliver's mother.

It's a project that is a labor of love for McGregor, which can't always be the case, realistically speaking.

"I can honestly say I've never done a job just for the money, but sometimes you've got some independent scripts and a bigger one, and you think, 'Well, I've made three or four independent films,' so sometimes that factors into your decision-making a little bit," he admits. "I think that's all right, isn't it? Does that make me a bad person?"


COURTESY OF FOCUS FEATURES
▶ Ewan McGregor stars in "Beginners."

NED EHRBAR
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LOS ANGELES

McGregor and Plummer do skinny jeans

"We met and had lunch in The Beverly Hills Hotel, and then [director Mike Mills] sent us off to Barney's," McGregor explains. "He gave me $200 and he said that I had to buy Christopher a scarf. I'm not exactly sure what he told Christopher, but Christopher became obsessed with skinny jeans. ... He said, 'They are very tight.' I said, 'Well, those are skinny jeans. The people call them skinny jeans.' So he became obsessed with skinny jeans. As I was trying to drag him back to the scarves, he kept disappearing over to the jeans section. I did eventually get him a scarf, after having put about $1,200 worth of black skinny jeans on my credit card."

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A New York state of mind

Hooray for Earth were once a Boston band A fateful move to the Big Apple helped singer Noel Heroux feel more artistically free

DREW ENNIS

▶ Heroux, far right, promises he still loves Boston.

Shortly after forming in Boston in 2006, Hooray for Earth's creative compass, Noel Heroux pointed his sights south and moved to NYC. But while the band may have separated geographically, Heroux's vision of their sound became clearer than ever.

"I love Boston, but as a place to live it was bad for me," says Heroux, who was back in town for a gig at The Paradise earlier this week. "I was bubbling myself off from the rest of the world, and I really wasn't doing anything I liked. I was making music, but it was purely for internal, tumultuous reasons."

Once known as a spacey-noise rock band, many longtime fans are surprised at H4E's electronic sonic evolution. But according to Heroux, it's wasn't necessarily a change of scenery that brought it on, it was a change in mood.

"When I moved, I was at ease and immediately felt comfortable. I took a year and my attitude evened out," he says. "I was happy thinking about what I wanted to do instead of getting caught up in depression."

On Hooray for Earth's recent release, "True Loves," Heroux's lyrics do seem more positive, but the music still conjures an ethereal darkness. Though it's already been classified as a retro '80s synth-pop record, the glorified production and execution make it better fit for the future and a post-apocalyptic party.

"The music came back in a way that I was happy with," says Heroux. "I didn't like the same sound. My mind opened up and I was excited to do new things."

NOLAN GAWRON
letters@metro.us

H4E is a guitar band!

While the sound is big enough to fill an arena, "True Loves" was actually made in a bedroom. Fleshed out with the band and producer Chris Coady (Beach House, Grizzly Bear, TV on the Radio), the sleek result is great for headphone listening and prime for the next wave of the space age…. Just don't call it synth-pop.

"There are tons of guitars," notes Heroux. "I find it funny that we are considered a synth-pop band. We are largely based around guitars and I think a lot of what people think are synths are actually modulated, low-tuned, and out-of-tune guitars. I also did so much vocal sampling and manipulation that I think it just comes across that way."

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mystyle

High-waisted jeans & ghetto-girl earrings

English singer-songwriter Jessie J deconstructs her signature '90s-influenced style She loves bold lipsticks, shoulder pads and Vivienne Westwood

"It's funny because I never thought of myself as a style icon," Jessie J says over the phone with two giggling friends in the background. We're talking about her trademark, in-your-face look that she likes to call "ghetto chic."

For the record, the words "style icon," are hers not ours. But it seems she's heard herself described as such enough times that she feels the need to comment on the label. Born Jessica Ellen Cornish, the British singer-songwriter has a personal style that is as memorable as her commanding, pliable voice. She's definitely the most style-y of England's ever-growing crop of talented soul singers (Adele, Amy Winehouse, Duffy.)

"It was never like, I need a gimmick. I need a look. I've always had the hair, lipstick, long nails," she says.

"I did hair modeling for three or four years. I had green and blue hair, a mohawk, but I always kept coming back to this bob. It's like my comfort blanket," she says, before pointing out that she's actually a natural blonde. And she's always styled herself. Since she's released her critically loved album, "Who You Are," the 23-year-old has been exposed to more influences. As opposed to a few years ago, she can now mix, say, Vivienne Westwood and Chanel into her usual repertoire of vintage and high street clothes.

"I love teaming high fashion with, like, massive, tacky gold earrings. I grew up watching, like, TLC and Whitney Houston in the high-waisted jeans. All of that had an effect on me."

KENYA HUNT
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

CONTRIBUTED

Jessie J says TIGI Smoothing Lusterizer is what gets her hair so shiny.

Building blocks

The wardrobe staples Jessie J can't live without:

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"I like the square heel. I'm not a fan of the thin heel for day — it looks like you're trying too hard."

Current Elliott high-rise jeans
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Take off your shoes and run

- New trend in running shoes is 'minimalist' footwear
- Lightweight, glove-like shoe aims to mimic barefoot running
- Shoes must be used properly to reduce injury

▶ Women's NB Minimus trail running shoe by New Balance.

KEITH LADZINSKI

Running barefoot is certainly nothing new in popular culture.

Abebe Bikila enthralled the world by winning the 1960 Olympic marathon sans shoes. Zola Budd, known for training barefoot, confounded it by colliding with Mary Decker during the 1984 Games. And Will Ferrell amused it during his "Old School" naked sprint in 2003.

Now, the "minimalist" running shoe, a lightweight, glove-like shoe that mimics barefoot running, is taking on a life of its own — a break from the standard, padded running shoe borne of the 1970s jogging craze.

"I think this movement is going to start to affect even the training shoes you see [in stores]." SEAN MURPHY

Recently, Reebok founder Paul Fireman invested $20 million in a Colorado sneaker maker specializing in minimalist footwear, which was popularized in Christopher McDougall's 2009 best-seller, "Born to Run."

"More people are shifting toward this type of product, or at least trying it," New Balance manager of sports research Sean Murphy told Running Times Magazine. "I think this movement is going to start to affect even the training shoes you see [in stores]."

Low-cut, with a slight heel and arch support and shaped with holes for each individual toe, the minimalist shoe mimics the bare foot hitting the ground.

Proponents of the shoe point to its light weight and its ability to strengthen foot muscles and encourage proper running gait, which reduces injuries.

But injuries are reduced only if the shoes are used properly. Critics of the shoes point out that using them too often, too soon, can actually lead to calf and Achilles' pain.

With this revolutionary product, slow and steady is what wins the race.

JEFF GOLDBERG
letters@metro.us

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What lies beneath

Parabens — chemicals used to preserve a product's shelf life — are in all sorts of items Should you be worried about what's in your stuff?

CREATAS

▶ Know what's in your products before you buy them.

Parabens are used in everything from shampoo to moisturizer, but does that mean they're safe? Though there is no definitive link, parabens are suspected to affect hormone function, particularly estrogen, as well as cause birth defects and cancer. A 2003 U.K. study found parabens in breast-cancer tissue in 18 out of 20 tumors. Other research has shown that parabens enter cells via absorption.

"Cosmetic companies argue that the amount of parabens used in each product is very small — but they are used in a lot of products, and over time there's a cumulative effect," says Suki Kramer, head of Northampton, Mass.-based Suki natural skin care. "Sixty percent of product is absorbed into the body through the skin. [That's] just the same as a transdermal patch, like a nicotine patch."

Parabens are synthetic preservatives used to extend a product's shelf life. There are four main types: methylparaben, ethylparaben, butylparaben and propylparaben. All are petro-chemicals, petroleum byproducts.

"Why extend shelf life for two or more years? We don't want that with our food," says Kramer. "The standards are different from food, but they shouldn't be. We are absorbing skin care, just like food."

"By law, [companies] don't have to list these at all," she says. Her advice is to always check labels. "Consumers are trusting, but we should be more cynical."

Still, one doctor says that there's no pressing cause for concern.

"We know that parabens are absorbed and that makes people anxious," says Dr. Ruth Tedaldi, a dermatologist in Wellesley, Mass. "But it hasn't been sufficiently proven as a cause of breast cancer. It is important to have something that is an effective preservative. As with most things, we have to weigh up the risk against the benefit."

LINDA CLARKE
letters@metro.us

Paraben-free products

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Letters

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Listen up, Ms. Weiner

I was surprised to hear that Anthony Weiner is afraid of what Hillary Clinton may be saying to his wife, Huma Abedin. Having managed to uphold her dignity while supporting her husband, Sec. Clinton's refusal to let being the victim of a cheating spouse define her future contributed to Clinton becoming a senator and a member of the president's Cabinet. If Sec. Clinton is offering any advice to Ms. Abedin, Rep. Weiner better hope she listens.

DAVID TERHUNE, VIA E-MAIL

Some of us are stuck in past

RE: "BLACK AND WHITE: SAME THING": It was so refreshing to read the words of Rich Brittle Sr. in the Metro. Racism is the scale that I use to measure humanity's evolution. Unfortunately, we have a few caveman left on this planet that refuse to evolve. Politicians know that the caveman is easily frightened and rattled — case in point the 2010 midterm elections which resulted in many states suffering from buyer's remorse. It's time to move forward, people.

VICTOR ROBINSON, VIA E-MAIL

Capitalism's worst warrior

RE: "OBAMA: SECRET CAPITALIST": If being a capitalist were a job, Obama should be fired. All of the leading economic indicators used to forecast growth are off. He promised us jobs, and no real recovery has emerged as a result. Home values are off 33 percent, unemployment is steadily holding at more than 9 percent and we're selling more products abroad than here. Oh yeah — and inflation is rampant like the forest fires. So what is our genius Keynesian president doing about it? He's trying to raise taxes to pay for more free health care for those who cannot pay for it. Face facts, liberals: Obama is an economic catastrophe.

CHRIS WELCH, BARRE

Cry for us, Rep. Boehner

While I had not heard of the Antideficiency Act, which prevents federal employees from overspending, I would have expected the speaker of the House to be familiar with it. According to a government watchdog, Rep. Boehner violated the law when he ordered counsel to sign a contract for $500,000 with a private law firm to defend the Defense of Marriage Act.

GEORGE MANIATTY, JR., VIA E-MAIL

E-mail your letters: letters@metro.us

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Generally, teaming up with someone usually turns out to be rather fortunate for you, but today could prove to be an exception. Go it alone if possible.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** If you find that you have more responsibilities piling up than you can handle, do what you can without becoming frustrated. You'll take care of business in due time.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Be careful how you handle some shocking hearsay conveyed by a talkative friend. If you repeat it to others without first having its validity checked, trouble could ensue.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Friends or associates won't think less of you for avoiding problem areas that could cause you trouble. In fact, they'll admire you for your good judgment.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** You're a person who usually doesn't turn a deaf ear to the advice or suggestions of cohorts. You'll have little interest in what others are saying.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** If there are persons involved in your commercial affairs with whom you've never before dealt, tread slowly and cautiously. Check them out first before doing business.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Avoid being compelled to make an important decision under strong pressure, especially if your judgment isn't running up to par. Postpone doing so until another time.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** All those nasty jobs you've been putting off might catch up with you. It isn't likely that you'll have as much latitude as last time.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** It is never a good day to champion an unpopular cause, but now may be an exceptionally bad time to do so. Don't force your views on others, unless you relish a hostile reception.

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** The disorder you find in your household may be your doing more than anybody else's, especially if you are having one of your moody days.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** Avoid making any commitments, regardless if they are verbal or written. What people say or even put in writing will not stand the test of time, and will come back to haunt you.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** If you need an emissary or someone to represent you in a matter that is of great importance to you, be extremely selective. If you make a bad choice, the issue will get worse.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL

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54 Has hopes
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65 Twig juncture
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67 Poker stake
68 He directed Marlon
69 Chicken's seat
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Down
1 A whole lot
2 Tortoise rival
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5 Sultan's subjects
6 Heavy green wool
7 551, to Ovid
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11 Blarney Stone site
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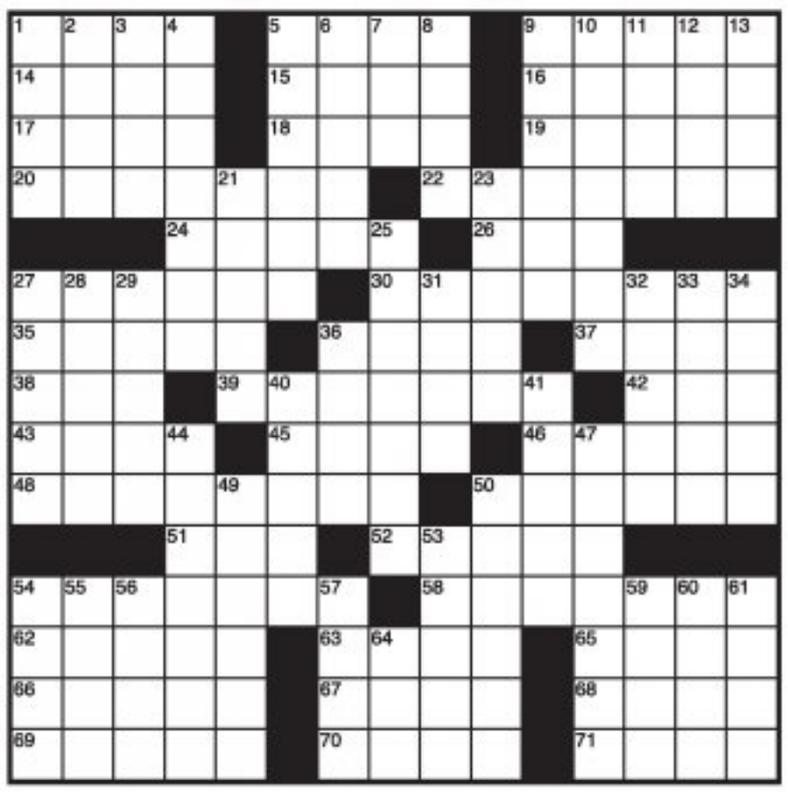
64 Map dir.



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SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

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SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to yesterday's crossword

C	A	S	E		H	A	S	T	A		D	R	I	P
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A	S	A	N		O	N	I	O	N		O	V	E	N
H	E	L	D		S	T	E	E	D		R	E	B	A

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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Bruins sitting one game from the Cup

- The entire NHL season comes down to tonight's Game 7 in Vancouver
- Scoring first key
- Current B's know what a title would mean to Hub

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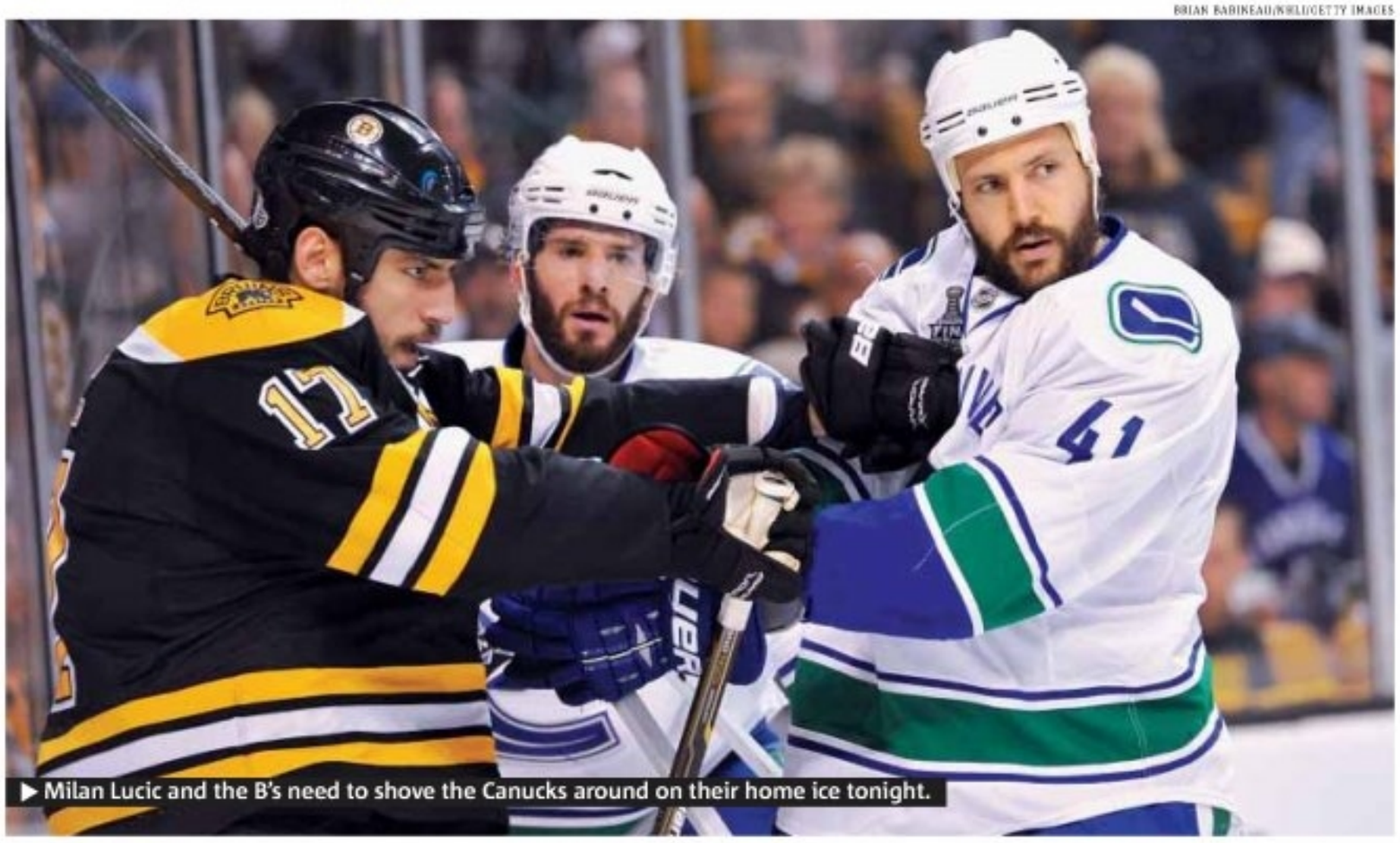

▶ Milan Lucic and the B's need to shove the Canucks around on their home ice tonight.

Tale of the tape

Game 7 tonight
8 p.m., NBC, 98.5 FM

B's at Canucks

▶ **The situation**
It's the most pressure-packed stage in hockey. The entire season is down to a single game; one team will go home with the Stanley Cup, the other will be left wondering about what could have been.

▶ **The key**
Boston needs to break the finals' road-team curse. The home team has won all six games so far, and the visitors have looked totally pathetic every time except Game 2. The B's must rattle Luongo in his own house.

▶ **The pick**
Tim Thomas is going to win the Vezina and the Conn Smythe. He'll pull this one out, too. **Bruins, 1-0**

Who to watch

1. Canucks LW Daniel Sedin guaranteed his team will win Game 7 in an interview after Monday's rout.
2. Vancouver native Mark Recchi, 43, is likely playing in his final NHL game tonight. He's tallied 13 points this postseason.
3. Roberto Luongo should get the start for the Canucks. But can he overcome his mental challenges after being shelled again in Game 6?

Who will be tonight's Nathan Horton? Will the Bruins have a new Game 7 hero, or will the dreams of players, coaches and loyal fans waiting 39 years for the Stanley Cup come crashing to the ice?

A wild and emotional Stanley Cup finals ends tonight with Game 7 at Rogers Arena, where the Bruins have yet to win this series — and where they must tonight or allow the hated Canucks the greatest celebration in their 40-year NHL history.

In three games in Boston, the Bruins outscored the Canucks 17-3. But in Vancouver, the Bruins have managed just two goals. It all must change tonight.

And the B's can't wait long to change it. In each of the first six games, the team that scored first won.

"We are very well aware of how we've played the last three games in Vancouver," Bruins coach Claude Julien said. "It hasn't been good enough, and our plan is certainly to change that for Game 7. We've created ourselves another opportunity, and it's up to us to take advantage of it."

The Bruins looked a skate slow in Game 5 last Friday. Tonight, the Bruins must absorb Vancouver's emotion and channel it back at them.

"We've got to play our best game," Mark Recchi said. "We know we have to be physical and that's going to be part of it. It was something outrageous [that] we got out-hit in Game 5. I don't believe that's going to happen in Game 7.

"We know the significance; 1972 the last time this town got to see a Stanley Cup. It would be remarkable. It's been a long time.

"We hope we can do that."

JEFF GOLDBERG
sports@metro.us

On the air tonight

Game 7: Bruins at Canucks
8 p.m., NBC, 98.5 FM

The buzz

What fans of both teams are saying about the matchup on Twitter.

- **@celticlassie85** So, some Bruins fan said the Sedins need to learn how to fight with their fists, and not mouths. Uh no thank you. We don't have goons here!
- **@jeffisrael25** Lunar Eclipse tomorrow ... Lunar eclipse during G4 of 2004 World Series when Sox won
- **@phillipmoore42** let do this go bruins break them down score 8 more on them tear them down!!!!!!!

Experience nod goes to Boston

If tonight's contest turns on Game 7 experience, the Bruins have a decided historical edge.

Boston will be playing in its 22nd all-time Game 7, and its fifth on the road. They've already won two this year, snapping a four-series losing streak dating back to 2004 against Montreal.

Vancouver, meanwhile, is in its 11th all-time seventh game.

They're 6-4 in their previous 10 encounters, which includes an overtime victory at home this year against the Chicago Blackhawks. METRO

Point counterpoint

Which team will win tonight's Stanley Cup finals Game 7?

We've again teamed up with our friends at Metro Vancouver to debate the finals.

What was once a best-of-seven series now boils down to a single game. So, who's going to win it all?

Here in the Hub, Metro Boston's Mike Naughton says the B's have 60 solid minutes left in them.

But Metro Vancouver's Jeff Hodson has Roberto Luongo playing like a real, live NHL goalie tonight.

Who's right? Who's wrong? Tell us — and read more of our Bruins coverage — online at metro.us.

METRO

MICHAEL NAUGHTON

METRO BOSTON

Sixty minutes.

The Bruins can and will play a harder, stronger, more intense 60 minutes tonight. That's why they'll win their first Stanley Cup in 39 years.

They've proven in these finals they can play that long; that for 60 minutes, they can simultaneously score and shut down one of the best offensive teams in the league.

Now they just need to do it in Vancouver.

With the season down to the final 60 minutes, records and stats no longer matter.

The Bruins will win because by the time Game 7 rolls around, time's run out on diving and trash talking. Game 7s are about grit, determination and intangibles.

The Bruins have all of that ... and Tim Thomas.

Boston's goalie is in the middle of one of the best playoff runs ever. He's been this team's constant. And for 60 minutes tonight, he'll prove that once more.

JEFF HODSON

METRO VANCOUVER

It's incredible that nine months of toil — of highs and lows and injuries and success across more than 100 games — boils down to a mere three periods tonight to determine which team sips from Lord Stanley's silver mug.

Despite being outclassed by a respectable Bruins team in stats for much of this series, the Canucks will be that team.

Roberto Luongo, a Vezina candidate who was lampooned in two countries as a lightning rod for the team's frightening defensive breakdowns in Boston, has been Lu-donkulous in Rogers Arena.

He has two shutouts in three games. But more than that, he's been confident and comfortable at home, and he's allowed his team to relax and play its game: skill, heart and Sedin wizardry that will be superior to anything Boston can ice.

As good (and as lucky) as Tim Thomas has been, Vancouver will hoist its very first Stanley Cup tonight.

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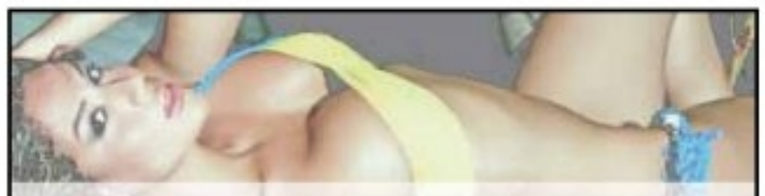
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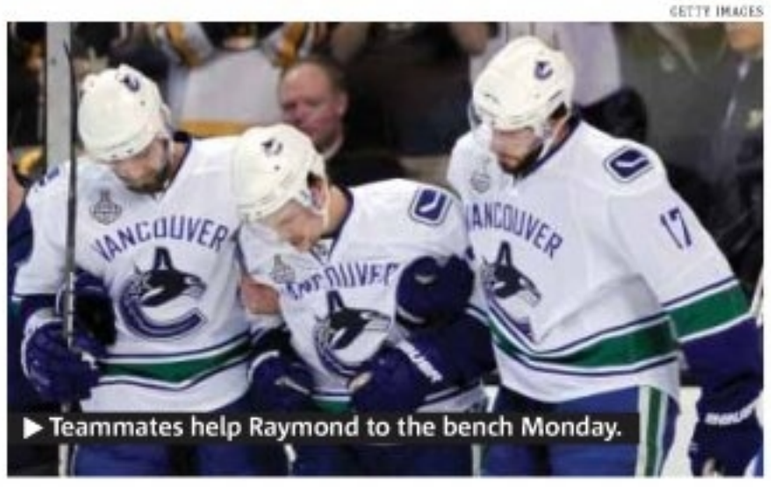

▶ Teammates help Raymond to the bench Monday.

NHL: No Boychuk ban

Johnny Boychuk won't face any discipline for a Game 6 check that left Canucks winger Mason Raymond with a broken bone in his back, the NHL confirmed yesterday.

Raymond appeared to stumble before Boychuk checked him into the corner boards in the opening seconds of Monday's game. The Vancouver player "sustained a vertebrae compression fracture," according to the Canucks.

NHL discipline czar Mike Murphy called it an "awkward collision."

METRO

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Boychuk

Canucks upset

Vancouver seemed none too pleased that Boychuk was not penalized for his hit on Raymond.

GM Mike Gillis "stormed out of the TD Garden after Game 6," trying to find out whether the puck was near Raymond, TSN — Canada's ESPN — reported.

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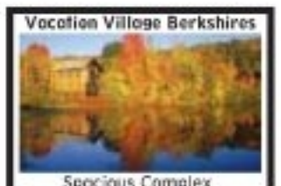

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at home with metro

Lured to luxury

- The Marais is doing well with rentals, thank you very much
- It might not be ready until September, but residents wanted in on the action right away

When the developers of The Marais in the South End first decided to list their luxury, Parisian-style flats as rentals instead of condos, they feared a unit for $7,000 a month would languish on the market.

Luckily for them, they were wrong.

After only three weeks of marketing, six of the eight units at The Marais, which is still under construction and won't be complete until September, are fully rented.

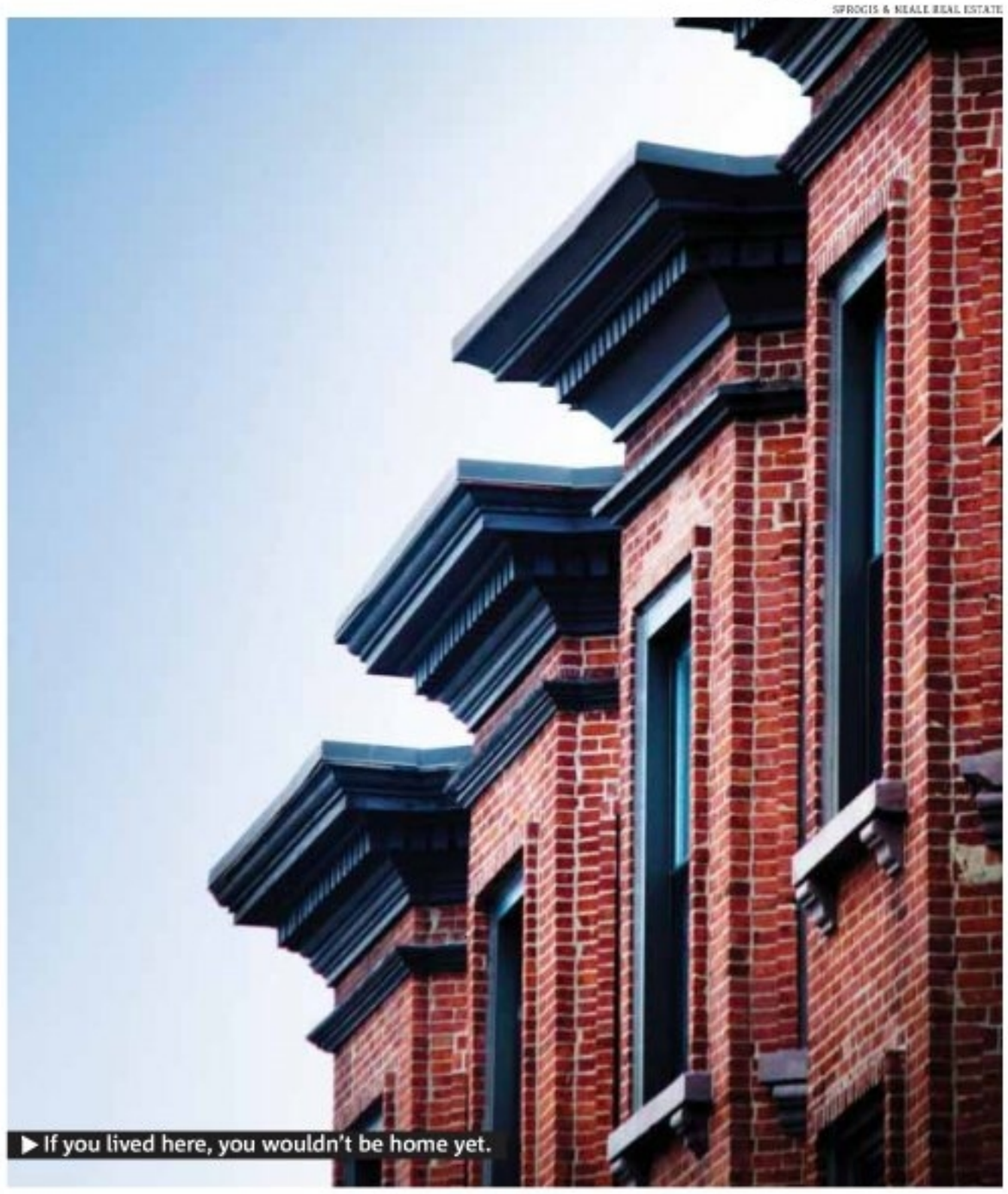
"People are like, 'This is so nice,'" said John Neale, partner at Sprogis & Neale Real Estate, which is leasing the units. "It's a very high-end, condo-quality space for rent, which is hard to find."

Despite the fact that prospective renters were forced to wear hardhats during their viewings, they were sold immediately, said Neale. He said features like the wide, plank-oak floors, large balconies, high ceilings and ornate fireplaces lured them in. Six of the units take up an entire floor of the building each and have private elevator access. Those units range from 2,000 to 2,260 sq. ft. and have two bedrooms and two and a half bathrooms.

The building was once part of the former St. James Hotel, which has an exterior reminiscent of Parisian buildings. This is what inspired the architect, David Hacin of Hacin and Associates, and developers to name the complex The Marias: the picturesque neighborhood in Paris.

CHRISTINA WALLACE
christina.wallace@metro.us

SPROGIS & NEALE REAL ESTATE



▶ If you lived here, you wouldn't be home yet.

What else?

Amenities abound

Marais amenities include parking, a gas-grill hookup on the balcony and a washroom for pets on the ground floor. The Marais is also located within walking distance to many South End eateries.

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2 Give that rusty picnic table a cheerful makeover with a colorful printed tablecloth. **Anthropologie Ikebana table cloth, $78, www.anthropologie.com**

3 Nothing adds mood lighting to your backyard or rooftop meals like the sweet glow from a lantern. **Martinique tall lantern, $15, www.crateandbarrel.com**

4 You can toss these cheerful melamine bowls into your backpack or picnic basket stress-free. **Working Class Studio The Ben Collection melamine bowl, $6 each, www.amazon.com**

5 Zippo's latest, made with a flexible gooseneck and slim nozzle, is perfect for lighting up the grill or lantern. **Zippo Flex Neck Utility Lighter, $20, www.zippo.com**

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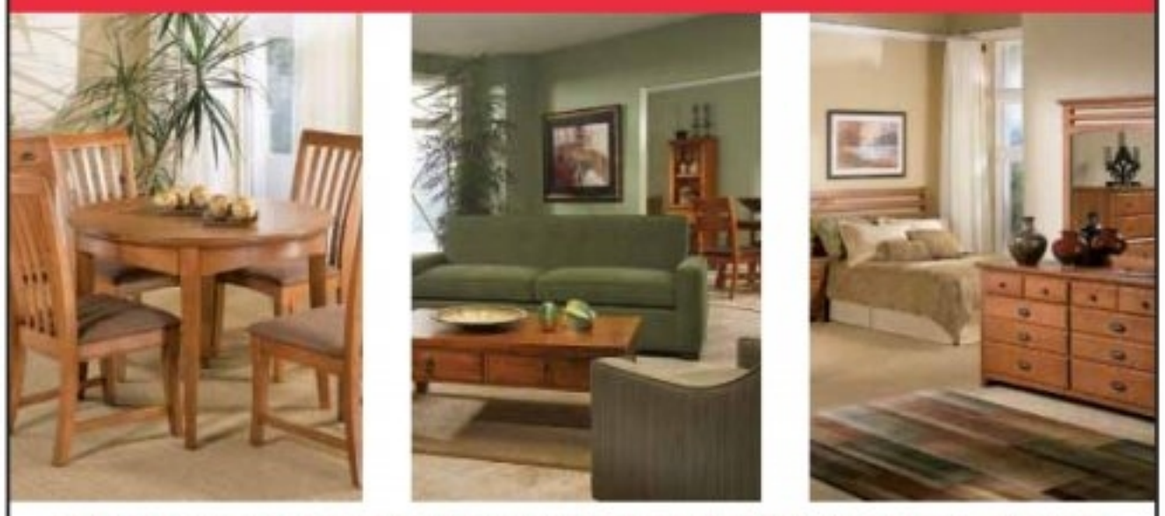

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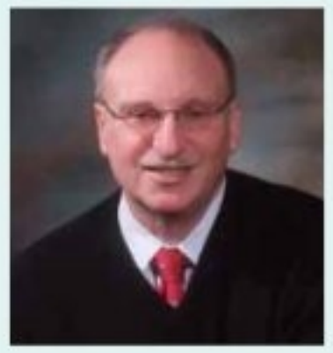

MAKING MONEY WITH SOLAR ENERGY

By Attorney George Warshaw

There are a number of ways a property owner in Massachusetts makes money by installing solar energy panels:

Tax Credits. Tax credits reduce your income tax. Current IRS rules permit a homeowner to claim a credit of 30% (no max amount) of the cost of purchase and installation of solar energy. Massachusetts provides a similar credit of 15% ($1,000 max) on state income tax.

Cash Rebates. Many towns have a program in which the homeowner receives a cash incentive for installing solar. Concord Municipal Lighting Company, for example, will rebate a buyer at the ***Riverwalk Condominiums*** in Concord up to $3,125 depending on the size of the system.

Yearly Revenue. Massachusetts, like some states, requires the power company generate a minimum percentage of its electrical power to end-users from certain renewable energy sources, such as solar.

Right now, the power companies can't generate enough solar power. They make up this deficiency by counting the energy generated by property owners who have installed solar.

The utility companies don't, however, get to count it for free. They have to buy it each year – from you, currently at $1,000 - $3,000 per year

Buy a solar-powered home, and put money in your pocket!

Read the full solar story, and past articles, at www.georgeinthemetro.com.

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GWA

George Warshaw is a real estate attorney and author. He represents buyers and sellers of homes and condos in Massachusetts, and prepares wills, trusts, and estate plans. George welcomes new clients and questions at metro@warshawlaw.com.

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